

These minutes are submitted by the Community Development Director and are not official until approved by the City of Evansville Economic Development Committee.

City of Evansville **Economic Development Committee**
Monday, April 19, 2021, 6:00 PM
Meeting held virtually

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order** Brooks called meeting to order at 6:00pm

2. **Roll Call:**

	Present/Absent	Others Present
Chair James Brooks	P	Community Development Director Jason Sergeant
Ben Ladick	P	Rock County Economic Dev. James Ottersein
Vacant	-	
Jason Knott	A	
Abbey Barnes	P	
Sue Berg	P	
Brandon Rutz	P	

3. **Motion to Approve Agenda by Berg, seconded by Barnes, approved unanimously.**

4. **Motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the March 15, 2021 meeting and approve them as printed by Ladick, seconded by Berg, approved unanimously.**

5. **Civility Reminder**

6. **Citizen Appearances, other than listed agenda items.** Brooks noted Otterstein's recognition by WEDA and was thankful for his years of service on this committee.

7. **Monthly Report**

A. Community Development Updates. Sergeant shared his report, including:

Recent and ongoing community development activities:

- City Engineer is updating maps for gold shovel, expect them back in next two weeks.
- First Business Retention Visit in conjunction with MadREP was with Baker Manufacturing, concerns expressed focused on employee retention. Resources have been shared to overcome some of these challenges.
- Approached by three new possible small businesses looking to locate in Evansville.
- Discussion with property owner on E Main for potential re-use of building.
- An Existing business is continuing to look at new lots for expansion.
- No progress has been made with a site selector focused on two parcels, each requiring re-development or significant challenges, scheduled phone call with them next week for updates.

- iWorq online permitting set-up continues. Building Permits are now being processed through this system by staff. Historic Permits are next, followed by zoning permits and customer portal completion.
- 20 S Madison's application to create a condominium plat is approved.
- Settler's Grove Subdivision plat has been reviewed; agreement negotiations continue.
- A land division request has been submitted to create an additional out lot in Westfield Meadows for the bike path, as well as reduce the size of an existing out lot.
- A revision to Lot 15 in Stonewood Grove has had a request for more information
- A re-plat along porter road is expected to align future West Side Park entrance with Seventh Street
- A/V Conversion of Council Chambers: Equipment has begun install Tierney expects installation to finish this month.
- West Side Park, Aquatic Center and Splashpad RFP: Common Council accepted MSA Professional Services proposal and has authorized the negotiation of a contract.
- Building Permit Updates:
 - 2021 Total to date: 119 permits and \$32,690.15 in collected permit fees
 - 2020 Totals: 310 permits and \$59,764 in collected permit fees
 - 2019 totals: 338 Permits and \$151,861 in collected permit fees (Includes ECSD building improvements and construction)
 - 2018 Totals: 366 permits and \$ 79,549.5 in collected permit fees (Includes Library building improvements and construction)
 - 2017 Totals: 230 permits and \$ 46,451 in collected permit fees (Includes Delong Addition, Brown School Place II and Night Owl)
 - 2016 Totals: 205 permits and \$ 56,440.54 in collected permit fees (Includes Delong Addition, Brown School Place II and Night Owl)

B. Chamber of Commerce Report – No report.

C. Tourism Commission Report: Berg shared they commission did not meet this month but Memorial Day activities are upcoming and the Evansville brochure was updated, printed and distributed. The next meeting is June 10th.

Brooks shared flowers are expected to go up downtown before Memorial Day. Additionally, holiday lights committee has narrowed down to two samples and they will be delivers to the city soon.

8. New Business

- A. Discussion and Updates on City/Chamber COVID-19 Activities.** Sergeant shared federal relief funds are in draft stage for rule making.
- B. Discussion and Updates on Gold Shovel Site Certification.** Sergeant shared recent maps and updated application. Commission discussed priorities of how to use this lot in light of recent inquiries of smaller lots. Once gold shovel certification is complete, a clear marketing strategy should be put together.
- C. Updates on New Commercial Development – Dollar General.** Sergeant shared the recent development proposal for Dollar General. Commission discussed concerns with possible staffing levels and importance of a convenience store in this area of the city for walkability.
- D. Discussion and Updates on Energy Independence Team Initiatives.** Brooks shared progress on a resolution for carbon neutrality. He also shared information about recent

bills regarding community solar. Ladick inquired about requiring electric car chargers in large commercial parking lots.

9. Other Business. Otterstein shared recent rock ready index release.

10. Next Meeting Dates: June 21st, 2021 at 6:00pm

11. Motion to Adjourn by Barnes, seconded by Rutz. Passed Unanimously.